Music development plan summary: Sawtry Infant School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	12th October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Nichola Alexander
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Yasmine Trace
Name of local music hub	Cambridgeshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady Music School Cambridgeshire Music Charanga

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

To find out more about music at Sawtry Infant School, please visit our Music Curriculum page.

Music is taught weekly in every class, with lessons lasting a minimum of 30 minutes. Our curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and is delivered by class teachers, supported by specialist planning and the Charanga scheme of work.

We are committed to ensuring that music is inclusive and accessible to every child. Teachers adapt learning to meet individual needs, drawing on our music progression document to support planning, assess progress and develop teaching

practice. For children with more complex learning needs, we use an adapted curriculum, with
Charanga providing high-quality examples and resources to help tailor learning appropriately. Our Music Subject Leader is also undertaking further training to strengthen

inclusive practice and ensure that lessons are adapted effectively to enable all children to participate and succeed.

Children have opportunities to explore and develop their musical skills through a wide range of experiences. These include learning to play instruments through Rocksteady Music School, as well as experimenting with a variety of percussion instruments during class music lessons. Children take part in whole-class ensembles, small-group
activities and individual playing, helping them to develop their musical confidence, listening skills and enjoyment of music.

Our partnership with Cambridgeshire Music further strengthens our provision. The team has supported our Music Subject Leader in planning and developing a clear overview of musical progression across Years 1 and 2, and has previously provided valuable continuing professional development opportunities for our class teachers.

We also offer additional opportunities to nurture children's musical interests and confidence. A recent recorder club enabled children to learn a new instrument and celebrate their achievements by performing a short concert for the rest of the school.

Through our curriculum and wider musical opportunities, we aim to inspire a love of music, develop musical skills and ensure that every child can experience the joy of making music together.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Beyond the classroom, we offer pupils the opportunity to develop their musical skills through Rocksteady Music School, which provides extracurricular music tuition for children across the school.

Through Rocksteady, children can learn to play a range of instruments, including drums, guitar and keyboards, as well as developing their vocal skills. Sessions follow a band-based approach, enabling children to learn collaboratively, build confi-

dence and experience the enjoyment of making music together. Children's progress is tracked through a structured scheme, and regular termly concerts provide opportunities for them to showcase their achievements to family and friends.

Rocksteady also offers a bursary scheme and matched funding to help make musical opportunities more accessible to pupils eligible for Pupil Premium.

Our wider musical provision is further enriched through fortnightly 15-minute singing assemblies, alongside regular singing opportunities within the classroom. These experiences help children to develop their vocal skills, confidence and enjoyment of singing.

Whole-school events, such as our Harvest Festival, provide meaningful opportunities for children to learn new songs, perform together and celebrate music as part of our school community.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Our Reception children take part in an annual Nativity performance, learning a range of songs and developing their confidence in performing to an audience. In Year 2,
children prepare an end-of-year show, which combines singing, learning lines and working together to create a memorable performance as they prepare to move on to junior school.

In the spring term, Key Stage 1 children had the exciting opportunity to attend an interactive performance by Britten Sinfonia. They joined in with singing and vocal percussion, experienced a range of instruments being played live and developed their understanding of how different instruments are played. We hope to offer this valuable musical experience again this academic year.

In the summer term of 2026, the children enjoyed an African drumming workshop led by Kwame. They explored a range of instruments, learnt different drumming techniques and had the opportunity to develop their rhythmic skills through practical
activities. The day concluded with a short performance alongside the instructor, celebrating their learning and achievements. This experience takes place every other year and is always eagerly anticipated by both children and staff.

We are also developing opportunities for children to engage with music through movement and visual representation. One approach involves finger-tracing patterns in response to a range of classical music. This practice has been shared by our music lead with colleagues and is now being used across different classes to

support
children's listening, concentration and responses to music.

Our musical links extend beyond our own school. Year 2 children have the opportunity to watch Sawtry Junior Academy's Christmas and end-of-year shows, giving them valuable opportunities to experience live performances and see the musical opportunities available as they move into Key Stage 2. They also enjoy welcoming younger children to our Reception Nativity and Leavers' Show, strengthening the connection between the two schools and celebrating music and performance across our school community.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

Over the coming years, we aim to continue developing and strengthening our music provision to ensure that all children have access to a rich, inclusive and inspiring musical experience.

- Strengthening links with local schools: The Music Subject Leader will explore opportunities to build stronger partnerships with schools across the local area, creating further opportunities for children to collaborate, share their
  musical learning and perform to different audiences.
- Expanding performance opportunities: We aim to broaden the range of opportunities for children to showcase their musical achievements, both within school and beyond, including performances that parents and families can
  attend. The Headteacher and Music Subject Leader are also exploring ways for Year 1 children to share their musical learning through a performance opportunity.
- Developing musical experiences: We will seek to provide a wider range of live music and performing arts experiences, introducing children to different musical genres, cultures and traditions from around the world.
- Continuing professional development: We will provide ongoing CPD for staff to strengthen their subject knowledge, confidence and delivery of the music
  curriculum. Learning walks, staff feedback and identified areas for development will inform future training and support.
- Strengthening music in EYFS: We are developing a plan to support our EYFS team in using Charanga more regularly and accessibly within the setting, ensuring that music is embedded within children's early learning experiences and supports their developing musical skills.
- Monitoring progression and assessment: The Music Subject Leader will regularly review assessment information and monitor pupils' progress to identify gaps in knowledge and skills. This will inform future planning, teaching and

adaptations, ensuring that learning builds progressively and that all children are supported to achieve their potential.

- Developing links with pre-schools: We aim to strengthen our links with local pre-schools and explore ways to include them in our wider music provision. This may include opportunities for Year 2 children to share their musical experiences and demonstrate what music learning looks like at Sawtry Infant School, helping to build relationships and support children's transition into Reception.

Through these developments, we aim to nurture a lifelong love of music, broaden children's musical experiences and ensure that every child has the opportunity to participate, develop their skills and celebrate their achievements.

Further information (optional)

Cambridgeshire Music Hub and Service: https://www.cambridgeshiremusic.org.uk/music-education-hub/

Rock Steady Music School: https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/

African Activities: https://africanactivities.org.uk/workshops-drumming/

Charanga: https://charanga.com/site/

Britten Sinfonia: https://www.brittensinfonia.com/